RNA FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS

RIVERVIEW Neighborhood Association

FEBRUARY, 1987

232 Ogden Avenue – Jersey City, N.J. 07307 – (201) 798-0493

RNA IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH ANY POLITICAL PARTY, ORGANIZATION OR ELECTED OFFICIAL.

Business As Usual

The December R.N.A. meeting had a full agenda. First was a report given by two city engineers on the findings of the city's study on Mountain Road. The report outlined the proposed cost for several things that will be required to get the road in working condition for pedestrians and autos.

Since the official position of R.N.A. is to get the road open, a committee was formed to meet with the head of the Dept. of Engineering and try to effect the immediate repairs to the road so that cars could use it safely. This meeting was to take place in January and its out-come would determine our next step.

Also reported was the new proposal by the builders of Pohlman Hall for a forty-two unit structure to be built on the open lot adjacent to their present building. The plans for this project have not been approved by the city as yet.

In regard to our new constitution we voted to enact a yearly membership fee of $3.00 a year, and that a quorum will be 50% of the elected officers and committee chairman. The quorum will be needed for legal vote taking, and will remain in affect until the membership list is gathered, at which time a vote will be taken to amend the quorum percentage.

A vote was taken to adopt some by-laws, a copy of which is available from the secretary, to aide in running the association on a daily basis.

CAROLERS

HEARD AT CHRISTMAS

Members of R.N.A. and their families got together one evening before Christmas and sang carols for their neighbors. Residents of Ogden Ave. were treated to this delightful surprise on Sunday December 21st. What the carolers lacked in talent they made up in enthusiasm.

Oldsters and youngsters had a wonderful time as they strolled from the gazebo in the park down Ogden, stopping at intervals to give their rendition of a favorite song of the season. Everyone seemed to think the first such musical effort made by the R.N.A. was a success.

Thanks to Councilman Tom Hart who was on hand to see us off, to Mrs Marie Tuzzo, who dressed as Santa Claus and rang those sleigh bells to herald our coming, and to the Conrad, Cioffi and Cutillo households for providing solace for our sore throats and cold bodies.

Maria E. Tuzzo

(see photo on page 3)

The last order of business was a social one. We celebrated those members birthdays that occur between July and December, and also the holiday season. All in all a very productive and informative meeting. Why not join us for our next production February 9th at the Harborview Health Care Center at 7:30pm. See you there.

Secretary
Maria E Tuzzo

UNDER the chair

It's a new year with a new beginning for RNA, with the newly installed constitution, we are now urging all our friends and neighbors to officially join the group by paying their annual dues of three ($3) dollars. This membership will entitle the person to vote on all local issues in RNA. We hope all the people who have helped our association grow, will continue to support it now as full-fledged members.

Thanks to all concerned for helping with the holiday activities. The lighting of the Riverview Park bandstand and the joyous Christmas caroling were a great success. Acknowledgements to Councilman Hart, the Dept. of Leisure Activities, our many friends and a special thanks to a certain female Santa Claus.

On Jan. 15th, RNA's Mountain Road Committee (Mrs. Tuzzo, Anne Hart, Ted Conrad, Frank Santoro, and Vito Brunetti) had its first meeting with the Dept. of Engineering to discuss the reopening of the Road. After a rather long, frank discussion, including the source of funding and the traffic and safety requirements needed for the work, Engineer Michael Barnes asked for a list of priorities from the RNA. These include:

a) recobbling or paving the surface,
b) a new retaining wall,
c) new sidewalks,
d) a blinking traffic light on Hope Street,
e) one or two way traffic, and
f) creating parkland in the center triangle.

At our next meeting, we will put together this list of priorities. Please feel free to write RNA and let us know your opinion on this matter.

On Jan. 23rd, Jersey City continued its case against the auto body shop at 33-35 Griffith Street in County Superior Court. The case was presided over to Judge James O'Hallaran.

Prosecutor Harold O'Grady called building inspector John Scafidi, residents Vito Brunetti and Ted Conrad to testify as witnesses.

Frank Gozzolino, owner of the property and Frank Santana, proprietor of the business were represented by Santo Colarco. The case continues on Jan. 30th.

Abandoned cars are unfortunately a part of our neighborhood all year long. Whether its Mountain Road, Riverview Park, Ravine Road, Palisade Avenue, Wood Place or Ferry Street, people seem to have no qualms about dumping their "problems" on us. RNA would like to thank the Police Dept. for its recent efforts to remove these cars as soon as possible. However, this is a never-ending battle. Ravine Road is so congested with cars that it is barely passable. As residents, it is our obligation to report an abandoned car to the Police and more important, if we know, the culprit responsible.

It's amazing how people have so little regard for their own community by using it as a dumping ground for all their "garbage". There's an old saying: "You don't crap in your own backyard". Please take heed!

This brings us to shopping carts. A small but continuing annoyance is to see abandoned shopping carts scattered throughout the neighborhood. Again, please be responsible, return the cart to the store it was "borrowed" from. Maybe a meeting with the local markets is needed to help with this problem.

It's winter again, folks, with snow and ice on the ground. Please shovel and sweep your sidewalks for the safety of your family, friends and neighbors. The majority of the area is clean but there are a few people who do not bother to shovel their sidewalks, creating a safety hazard and potentially opening themselves up to a lawsuit.

I know it's a little early to think about planting flowers, but wouldn't it be nice to have a flower garden in Riverview Park this summer. If there's interest, we would have to speak to Joan Earls and Tom Hart, but really, what's there to object to—a plague of petunias, a rash of roses, an attack of azaleas? It would do a lot for the

UNDER THE CHAIR...

physical and psychological landscape of our Park. So, if you're interested, please help us set up a gardening group. Remember, save your flower and seed catalogues.

Suggestion: Lets have a monthly photograph section in the newsletter. It should be of our neighborhood, past or present. It can be a person, a building, or a part of nature. The only requirement is that it be taken by a local resident. (I got the idea from Dean Howell's marvelous Snap Shot show last fall.) So, don't be shy, let's see your birthdays and communions.

We received letters thanking the Association for our efforts in some group projects. Below are excerpts from those letters.

THE SALVATION ARMY:

.....Thank you so much for your kind contribution to our Holiday effort for 1986.....I just want you to know that YOU ARE SPECIAL, to the Salvation Army and special to the people in our community.....Thank You For Being You...

Lt Roberto Chavez

HARBORVIEW HEALTH CARE CENTER:

.....We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your time and genorosity in providing the Harvest party at Harbor View on Nov. 14,1986....The residents were very receptive and enjoyed the activity very much.

Michael Antonicello

COUNCILMAN TOM HART:

...I want to express my appreciation to you and my pride in you for the marvelous way in which you helped spread the true Spirit of the Season. The lights were beautiful...the caroling was an extremely nice touch...I appreciate the effort which Vito put into this project...I wish each and all of you the best of wishes for 1987 and pray that it will bring you blessings and bounty...May we continue to work and play together...

Tom Hart

UNDER THE CHAIR...(Cont'd)

CITY NOTES: A major victory was won for the tenants of Jersey City with the recent decision of a federal court to uphold the Hoboken anti-warehousing law. There is now an effort in Jersey City's City Council to strengthen our own similar law to provide and protectapartments for tenants. Our gratitude to Councilman George Aviles for his commitment to this problem.

The fight for the preservation of the Loews Theatre in Journal Sq. continues. Ted Conrad is involved in this effort.

Keep an eye on the rank and file effort demanding employment and housing for Jersey City residents from waterfront developers. Their march on Newport City on Monday, Jan. 19th, was a good beginning in this long struggle.

Last Word: Through this newsletter and the association's work, RNA is trying to improve the neighborhood. Sometimes we say or do things that people disagree with. Feel free to use this newsletter as a forum for your opinions of RNA's work. We would love to hear from you.

courtesy of Jersey Pictures, Inc.
photographer : Steve Golecki

SAFETY AT HOME

-Ernie Quinterro

I'm not a writer and I don't have any statistics on what I'm suggesting, but feel it is more or less common sense.

When was the last time you had a blown fuse in your fuse panel? If you havent, it might be because you have 30 amp fuses on your circuits and most houses in this area are old so you're already playing a chance game with fire. By overloading the lines with too many appliances, lights, motors, and so forth, you increase chances of causing electrical fires. It might be advantageous to lower the fuse ratings to 20 or 15 amps instead.

How many people have a 30-year old lamp they love. It might be a good idea to have all the electrical wiring, switches and sockets replaced with new ones. Don't repair it if you do not know what you are doing. Have someone who is qualified do it. Replace old receptacles and switches with new ones. Very old applicance are not as energy efficient as todays so they draw more current and since they have old cords, elements and/or motors, the higher the likelihood of problems occurring.

Did you blow dry your hair this morning and did you forget to disconnect it from the receptacle? Well, if it drops and turns on accidentally, there might not be a bathroom left when you come back in the afternoon.

They say smoke detectors save lives which is true if they have proper batteries - ones you haven't taken out of your grandson's toy. Also, you should test the battery periodically by using the test button on the smoke detector.

Having a warm home in the Winter time is a nice idea but don't get carried away with those kerosene heaters that are being sold, especially if you have small kids around the house. Also electrical heaters draw huge amounts of current that will fry old wires up. Use the heating system at home for warming up the house. Insulation and weatherstipping help hold the heat inside. Don't use the boiler room for storing flammable items.

This might seem over-precautious but remember this a high-density area and a fire can injure many people and destroy a lot of property. You might say that I should have called this article fire prevention at home, but like I said, I'm not a writer.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The planning&development committee met with architect Fred Rosen on Tuesday,Jan.20th in the model apartment at Pohlman's Hall to look at the drawings for a new apartment building proposed for the parking lot just south of Pohlman's Hall.

We have the drawings,and they will be shown to all R.N.A. members at our next general meeting where everyone will be able to discuss this project. In the meantime,here is some information about the proposal: The drawings call for a two-story parking garage to be built first. The parking garage would extend over almost all of both parking lots there now. The upper level of parking would be about one or two feet above the present level of the sidewalk at Pohlman's Hall, and the lower level would be excavated below that. Over the parking deck,a six story apartment is proposed,but it would be only about one third as wide as the parking deck below it,and a little wider than the electric substation across the street from it. The building

continued on page 5

would provide 42 apartments, one and two bedroom units, no studios, and there would be 66 parking spaces in the garage. Enough spaces to serve both the apartment building and Pohlman's Hall. There would be no building on the hill, (as there was in their previous proposal) and no building in front of the other existing houses. The front of the apartment building would be built out of brick similar to Pohlman's Hall, and would have some details to help make it look as though it goes with Pohlman's Hall. But it would be a flat-roofed building about 10 feet higher than the peak of Pohlman's Hall.

Is your curiosity aroused? Then come to our next meeting, see the drawings for this major neighborhood building, and join in the group discussion.

Randy Sanford

CONRAD'S Corner

What's wrong with the Medical Center, Jersey City's most imposing monument? Nothing more than the Hudson County Courthouse when the backroom bureaucats wanted to get rid of it so they could build a new one. They said it wasn't functional, it was ugly, inefficient and ready to fall down. We heard the same thing about Roosevelt Stadium, Pavonia Library and Dickinson High School, the first technical and industrial high school in the United States, were all slated for demolition.

In the twenties and thirties every new building was better than the one it replaced, not so after the 1950's. Compare the Hudson County Administration Building with the old Courthouse, the new Ferris High School with Dickinson, the new prefabricated Pavonia Library with the old, the new athletic field in Caven Point by bottom line accountant Mayor McCann with the recently destroyed magnificent Roosevelt Stadium. Is the same thing going to happen to the Medical Center with its recently restored beautiful art deco interiors and automated evelators? Will our boob Mc Nutt politicians hand it over to the developers for more ratables like they traded donkeys with the Denville watershed to save ten dollars on the tax rate, all at a time when Mr. Lefrak expects Newport will increase the population of Jersey City by some 40,000? There's nothing wrong with the Medical Center except the people who are running it. Take a walk inside and see the lackadaisical attitude of the workers. Will they change if a new Medical Center is built?--of course not. Will the increased population of the entire waterfront developments reach 100,000, if so, then the proposed new hospital may be the same size as the old one, so then why build a new one?

Mayor Cucci should get wise, the same scheming bureaucrats we had to scuttle the Courthouse are still around deliberately running our city property into the ground so that they won't have to maintain it and the city can then issue bonds for new construction which the tax payers can pay off. These check collecting bureaucrats were never around in the days of Mark Fagan or Mayor Hague when maintenance was at its best. It was when federal funding became available to cities for new construction that these out-of-towners began to ruin our cities with redevelopment, tax abatement and lack of maintenance. Most of them just hang around andlook busy and are then rewarded with a pension. It's a great racket for anyone with a college degree and high salary vacationing in City Hall at tax payers expense. We could have three maintenance workers for everyone of these parasites to maintain our monumental buildings in tip-top shape. It would give some of the skilled maintenance workers of the City jobs.

Theodore Conrad

Requests for articles are always welcome and we will try to oblige when we can. You asked for restaurant reviews and we are happy to give you the first of a series. We will rate them by—what else —a gazebo.

Fair: 1 GAZEBO
Good: 2 GAZEBOS
Very Good: 3 GAZEBOS
Excellent: 4 GAZEBOS
Highest Rating: 5 GAZEBOS

JULES

JULES - 116-122 Franklin Street
James Musto - General Manager

The main room offers a cosmopolitan atmosphere. Seating was prompt and rolls, butter and water were placed before us with the menu. We also were asked if we wanted any drinks.

Jules has an extensive menu of pasta, veal, beef, chicken and fish as well as their specials of the day which they very nicely have listed as soon as you enter the first door.

We started off with salad with a choice of dressings. We had a hot antipasto for two ($6.95) as our appetizer. This included mussels, baked clams, stuffed peppers, artichoke hearts, stuffed mushrooms etc.

For our entrees, we decided on the mixed pasta selection ($10.95) consisting of lasagna, eggplant, manicotta, canneloni, meatballs & sausage and chicken scarparella ($12.95) which was chicken cooked with potatoes, sausage, peppers, pimento. The pasta was cooked al dente and the variety offered us a very nice sample of their food. Chicken was moist and flavored to perfection. For vegetables we had broccoli with a cheese sauce and fried zucchini. They were crunchy and not overcooked.

An extensive wine list was available but we chose a half carafe of red wine ($3.75) which to my delight was served at room temperature.

Our meal was topped off with coffee and a new special at Jules a selection from their pastry assortment. We were shown about 7 cakes and it was really hard to choose. We finally settled on the ambrosia cake which was indescribably delicious. Make sure that you save room for these delectable treats which is hard to do because along with excellent service (thanks to Debbie), you receive platters of food that are very large. You can, however, ask for a doggie bag and save room for dessert.

Jules has a main room with subdued lighting, a second room in the back that is big and a glass-enclosed room with a bar both of which may be rented for private parties. The only negative comment we have is that they do not have tablecloths or cloth napkins which we felt takes away from this delightful place; however, it does keep the price down. We give Jules a 4 gazebo rating.

Happy Valentine's Day!!

GIUSEPPE VEGGIES
LET ME TELL YOU, GIUSEPPE, THERE'S NOTHING LIKE N.Y. FOR SHOWS. I WENT TO SEE THE BROADWAY SHOW CATS, IT WAS GREAT
BUT, JOSE, YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO GO TO BROADWAY TO SEE CATS; YOU SHOULD HAVE COME TO MY BACK YARD LAST NIGHT
©Raquels

MIND TESTER

The answer to these testers are names of actual nuts.

1. What is a cream nut?
2. What nut will you find on a seashore?
3. What nut is a vegetable nut?
4. What nut is the side of a room?
5. What nut should be given to bad children?
6. What nut is uncooked bread?
7. A nut that is imported from South America:
8. What nut is a box?
9. What nut is a hot drink?
10. What nut is on your foot?

ATTENTION

Flea Market time is coming soon--May 3rd. Remember to save your junk when you do your spring cleaning. If you wish to rent a table, you can start to let us know now. In the next newsletter we will have more information.

Carin Lewis

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Harbor View Health Care Center is in need of your help. Can you give some of your free time to spend with the residents? Please give Mike Antonicello a call at 963-1800 for more information.

THE PLUMBER'S SECRET – GOOD VIBRATIONS

Here's a handy plumber's trick that works where nothing else will. Although it's most often used to free items made of metal that are frozen together, usually with slight rusting, I recently used the same trick to get the glass lid off a large cookie jar.

The trick is to adjust your wrench, or handle, or whatever you use to turn the moving part; apply as much force as you dare without breaking or deforming the part, and then, on the metal body adjacent to the part, begin tapping. Tap lightly at first; with a hammer or mallet, to set up vibrations. For example, to remove the metal seat from a faucet, I usually have to insert my seat tool, twist as hard as I can with my right hand, and then tap with a small hammer on the faucet body until I feel the seat release. To remove a bad piece of threaded pipe from a fitting, the same trick is frequently invaluable.

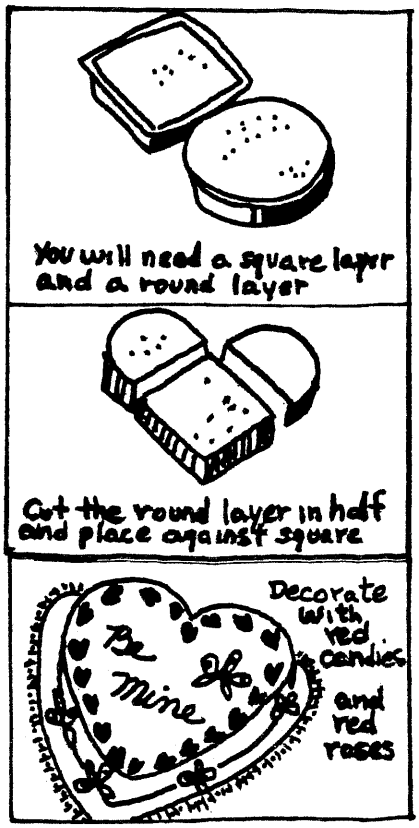
You must be patient. On cast iron radiators, I have sometimes spent 5 or 10 minutes to release a frozen fitting in order to replace a valve. However, once you set the hang of the trick, you will find many opportunities to use vibrations. Try them the next time you have to change a tire and one of the lug nuts won't budge!!

– DAVID SWEENY

Answers to Mind Tester.

1. Butternut	6. Donut
2. Beachnut	7. Brazil Nut
3. Peanut	8. Chestnut
4. Walnut	9. Coconut
5. Hickery Nut	10. Acorn

HEART CAKE---------


You will need a square layer and a round layer
Cut the round layer in half and place against square
Be Mine
Decorate with red candies and red roses

A beautiful surprise for Valentine's Day!!!!!!!!!

Make cake batter as directed on the Betty Crocker White Cake Mix package.

Divide batter between 2 greased and floured pans- one 8-inch square pan, and one one 8-inch round layer pan.

Bake as directed on package.

To make heart-shaped cake: Set square cake on large tray with one point toward you. Cut round layer in half. Arrange each half with cut side against top corners of square to form heart.

Frost with Betty Crocker Fluffy White Frosting Mix tinted pink with few drops of red food coloring. Be sure to cover top of cake well, especially over the cut sections. Decorate with red candies.

Did you guess the identity of our little ladies? The happy charmer on the right is none other than our own Carin Lewis a member of the Community Awareness Committee and chair-woman of the annual R.N.A. flea market. The chubby darling on the left is Maria Tuzzo R.N.A. secretary and Community Awareness Committee member. Look for other photos in future issues and have fun guessing Who They Grew Up To Be.

ELECTIONS

Another year gone by.
Time to nominate candidates for office at our meeting - Tuesday, February 10th, 1987.

This year we have a new officer on our list. According to the by-laws of our Constitution, we must have a Sergeant-at-Arms.
The list now reads:
Chairman -- Vice-Chairman
Secretary - Treasurer
Sergeant-at-Arms

Please try to decide now and come to the meeting prepared to nominate the candidates of your choice.

The Election will take place at the meeting - Tuesday, March 10th, 1987.

Marie Ipsaro

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COLOR, CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE & FOLD FOR YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD VALENTINE

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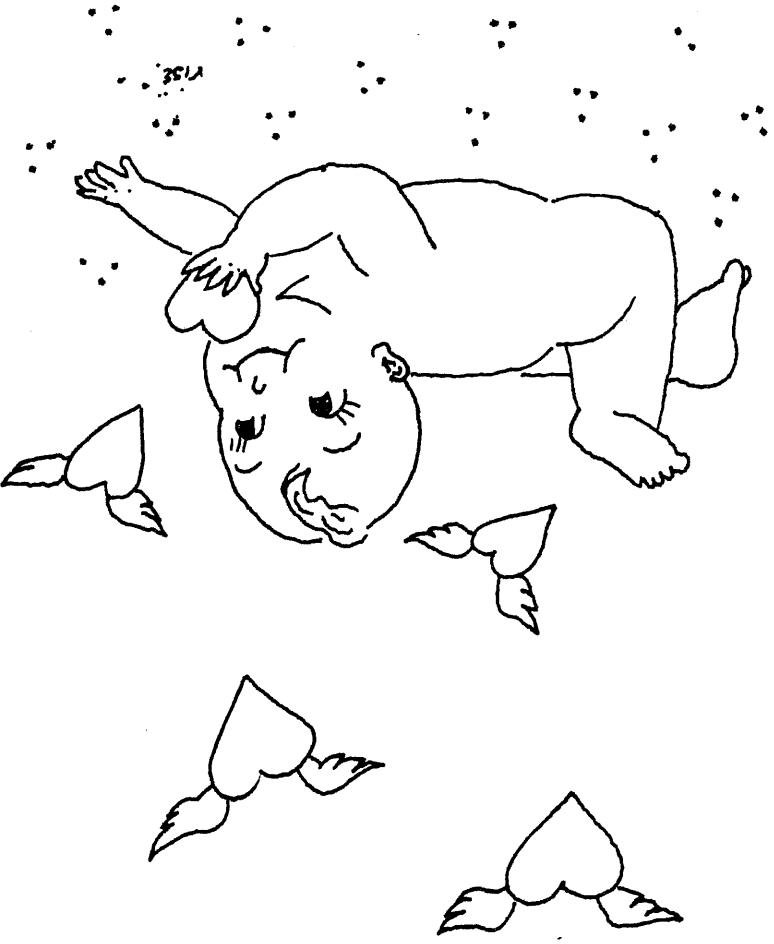

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RIVERVIEW Neighborhood Association

FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS

RNA

Vito Brunetti
Chairman

Bob Lewis
Vice-Chairman

Maria Tuzzo
Secretary

Rich LaPosta
Treasurer

Theodore Conrad
Historical Advisor

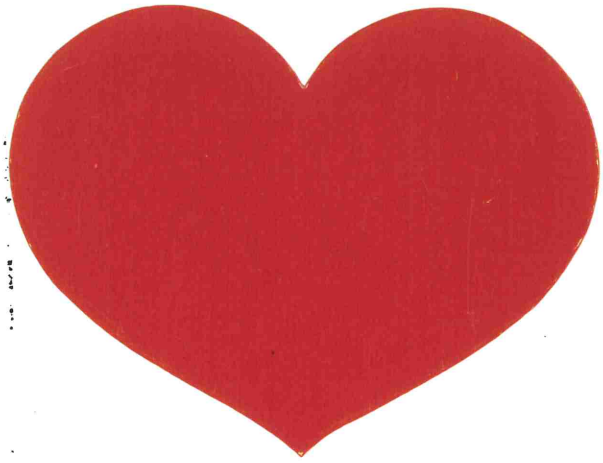
COMMITTEES:

COMMUNITY AWARENESS:
Edith Springer

PARKS & RECREATION:
Chuck Hollowell

SANITATION:
Anne Hart

TRAFFIC:
Michael Cioffi

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT:
Randy Sanford

CRIME:
George Graul